

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. S-504

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Crockett & Riggin Packinghouse, Tangier Packing Company
other Long, Coulbourne & Company Packinghouse

2. Location

street and number Hearn Alley (11th Street) not for publication
city, town Crisfield vicinity
county Somerset

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Kocojo, Inc.
street and number P. O. Box 670 telephone
city, town Crisfield state Maryland zip code 21817

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 451 folio 596
city, town Princess Anne tax map 102 tax parcel 19 tax ID number 7-113587

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District
Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
Recorded by HABS/HAER
Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. S-504

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The former Crockett & Riggin Company packinghouse, also known as the Tangier Packing Company, and later the Long, Coulbourn & Company, stands between 11th Street or Hearn's Alley and the Annemessex River, in Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story common bond brick packinghouse faces southwest with a combination deteriorated poured concrete deck and recently built pile supported wood dock in front.

Built in several stages during the early to mid twentieth century, the two-story, thirteen-bay, common bond brick packinghouse was enlarged to the northwest with a two-story, common bond brick addition featuring a row of coolers. The two-story main block is extended to the rear by a single-story shed roofed brick section in addition to later concrete block additions.

The southwest (main) elevation of the packinghouse is a seven-course common bond brick wall defined by an asymmetrical assortment of boarded over window openings spanned by double rowlock segmental arches. The first floor has a series of four door openings, several of which retain double rowlock segmental arches, and to each side of the row of doors are boarded over six-pane windows. The south end of the thirteen-bay wall surface is marked by bricked or blocked up window and door openings. The second floor retains a relatively intact series of window openings spanned by double rowlock segmental arches. The south end of the common bond brick wall has been rebuilt in later brick. The top of the wall is finished with a plain parapet capped with a rowlock course. Several tie rod anchors are fixed to the wall surface above the windows. The southwest façade of the north end addition is marked by a series of heavy cooler doors that pierce the common bond brick wall. A large part of the upper wall surface is built in a frame construction sheathed with metal sheets.

The northwest end of the packinghouse is laid in seven-course common bond with three bricked up window openings retaining double rowlock segmental arches. A partially bricked up opening on the second floor is fitted with a louvered vent. The top of the wall surface is capped with a stepped parapet that descends in elevation to the back of the building.

The rear wall of the north end addition is partially covered by a concrete block addition. The part of the wall surface not covered is marked by several bricked up openings as well as two smaller second floor openings retaining double rowlock segmental arches.

Attached to the rear wall of the north half of the two-story, thirteen-bay main packinghouse is a shed roofed section that extends back to a two-story concrete block and frame section partly built with rusticated blocks.

Extending to the rear of the south half of the packinghouse is a large shed roofed section covered by a low pitched tarred roof. The rear wall of the two-story section above the shed roof is pierced by a row of five rectangular shaped window openings. The rear wall of the shed roofed section is a laid in common bond brick with an off-center double door opening flanked by a tripartite series of six-pane windows to the south (left) and a single six-pane window opening to the north (right). In the southernmost end of the brick wall is another door opening.

The entire facility is secured and no longer used as a packinghouse. A second floor apartment with a sliding door entrance on the water side occupies south end of the main building.

8. Significance

Inventory No. S-504

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Crockett & Riggin Seafood Company established a seafood packing business the year after the rail line was extended to the deep water location on the Annemessex River. The two-story common bond brick packinghouse, now standing abandoned as a commercial facility, dates around 1915 and replaced other structures erected on this site during the 1870s and 1880s. The two-story, thirteen-bay brick structure retains a large number of its segmental arched openings across its long waterfront façade, and the structure stands in a row of seafood packing facilities that have defined the Crisfield waterfront since the early twentieth century.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Ananias R. Crockett Sr. (1831-1909) moved to Crisfield in 1853 and married Sally Riggin, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Somers Riggin. Ananias Crockett and L. James Riggin (nephew of Sally Riggin) founded an oyster packing business in 1875 known as the Crockett and Riggin Seafood Co.¹ In 1882, the company combined several smaller packinghouses in one large building seventy feet in width and one-hundred-and-fifty feet in depth. Three-hundred people were employed in shucking, packing, and shipping oysters with a capacity of handling two-hundred thousand bushels of oysters in a season. They also had an office in Troy, New York. Oysters were shipped from Crisfield to Troy and from there to all parts of the country.²

About 1895, a bridge across the slip to the harbor connected the oyster house property of Crockett & Riggin and Long, Coulbourne & Co. with the main section of Crisfield.³ In the late 1890s the partnership was dissolved and the name of the business was changed to Tangier Packing Company, operated by Ananias Crockett, Jr.⁴ The Sanborn Insurance maps for 1897 and 1904 show Crockett & Riggin rather than Tangier

¹ Woodrow T. Wilson, "Lest We Forget: Ananias R. Crockett," *Crisfield Times*, January 13, 1978.

² History of Eastern Shore Counties, 1883, quoted by Woodrow T. Wilson, "Lest We Forget: Ananias R. Crockett," *Crisfield Times*, January 13, 1978.

³ Woodrow T. Wilson, "The Files of the Crisfield Times," *Crisfield Times*, February 18, 1972.

⁴ Woodrow T. Wilson, "Lest We Forget: Ananias R. Crockett," *Crisfield Times*, January 13, 1978.

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Name Crockett & Riggin Packinghouse
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Packing. Ananias Crockett Jr. (1860-1939) married Lillian Lawson and had seven children. In 1926 and 1928 he was elected Mayor of Crisfield, and for many years he was a director of the Bank of Crisfield.

In December 1905 Tangier Packing Company accused several oystermen of unlawfully taking oysters from the company's leased grounds in the Little Annemessex River. When Ralph Nelson was arraigned and the evidence presented, Judge Kennerly found him guilty. Supporters of Nelson rushed the Justice and held him hostage for almost an hour until friends persuaded him to rescind his verdict and to declare that he would never try an oyster case again. Nelson and his supporters celebrated their victory by parading in the streets of Crisfield, and declared that there would be no more planting of oysters, threatening to raid and tear up those beds already in existence.⁵

In 1911 the company was one of the largest in Crisfield and sent oysters from coast to coast and from Canada to the Mexican border. The plant fronted on the harbor and consisted of a two-story brick building with numerous other buildings fronting seventy feet along the water and extending back a distance of ninety feet, providing a floor space of nearly 15,000 square feet. The company shipped oysters, crabmeat, soft shell crabs, turtle, terrapin, and clams. It claimed to be the only company in the world that packed soft shell crabs in cans. They also packed prepared foods under the 'Tangier Brand' including deviled crabmeat, crabmeat flakes, green turtle meat, green turtle soup, diamond back terrapin, little-neck clams, clam chowder, and clam juice.⁶

The Sanborn Insurance map printed in 1911 indicates that the company packed oysters in the winter and ice cream in the summer. In 1912,

"the plant, which fronts the harbor, is a two-story brick building with a number of outhouses, fronting 70 feet in the water, and extending back a distance of 90 feet, giving a floor space of nearly 15,000 square feet. Besides being among the largest shippers of Cove, Tangier, Pocomoke Sound, and Bay oysters, crab meat, soft-shell crabs, green turtle, diamond back terrapin and clams, the company is largely engaged in canning these delicacies, and its specialties are not to be equaled. Then there is the 'Tangier Brand' of deviled crab meat, crab meat flakes, pure, clean and wholesome."⁷

The 1917 Sanborn map labels the building as the Tangier Packing Company with A. R. Crockett as owner. It was an oyster house with an ice cream factory in the rear. The ice cream factory was no longer there by the time the 1923 Sanborn map was issued.

⁵ Reprinted in *The Daily Times*, Salisbury, Maryland, December 5, 2000, p. 11.

⁶ *Crisfield Times*, June 17, 1911, quoted by Woodrow T. Wilson, "Lest We Forget: Ananias R. Crockett," *Crisfield Times*, January 13, 1978.

⁷ *The Oysterman and Fisherman*, January 1912, p. 2.

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Name Crockett & Riggin Packinghouse
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

Crockett & Riggin Packinghouse
Hearn Alley, Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 102, Parcel 19

451/596 Frederick B. Gerald, III and Sarah B. Gerald

to

6/27/1997 Kocojo, Inc.
\$200,000 Plat ITP 291/152

ITP 353/284 Frederick B. Gerald, et al. (Carlton E. Dize, trading as Bayside Seafood)

to

7/31/1985 Frederick B. Gerald III and Sarah B. Gerald

ITP 326/823 Reico-Crisfield Associates

to

4/9/1981 Frederick B. Gerald, et al. (Carlton Dize trading as Bayside Seafood)
\$60,000

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Name Crockett & Riggin Packinghouse
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

ITP 291/149 Willard W. Evans and Louise Evans

to

12/15/1975 Reico-Crisfield Associates

277/444 Willard W. Evans and Roy W. Evans

to

9/18/1973 Willard W. Evans
...and being all that land conveyed to Roy W. Evans, et al. ITP 275/757

271/711 Wilbert J. Coulbourn

to

4/2/1973 Roy W. Evans and June A. Evans

258/192 Charles B. Pinto, attorney for Nelson R. Coulbourn

to

11/2/1970 Wilbert J. Coulbourn

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Name Crockett & Riggin Packinghouse
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

113/337

Ursula Poleyette, and Harold Poleyette, and Sarah Poleyette

to

11/8/1937

Nelson R. Coulbourn

\$7,500 conveyed to Joseph Poleyette by two deeds:

1. from Bank of Crisfield 6/3/1915, WJS 28/104

2. 9/7/1917, WJS 78/101

which said real estate was devised by the said Joseph Poleyette in his
Last Will and Testament, 4/12/1919, FED 33/155, unto Ursula Polyette

and Harold F. Polyette and a certain Helen Poleyette (now Helen Poleyette
Graham) the interest in the said Helen Poleyette Graham having been
conveyed by the said Helen Poleyette Graham and F. Stuart Graham unto
the said the said Ursula Poleyette, 11/19/1936, JMT 112/290

1. WJS 78/101

Bank of Crisfield

to

9/7/1917

Joseph Poleyette

SFD 55/48

William J. Phillips, Sheriff

to

10/1/1910

Bank of Crisfield

Circuit Court, two judgments recovered in said court, one in favor
of John Sterling of E. against Abednego R. Crockett, Lillian J. Crockett
and Ananias R. Crockett and the other of the Bank of Crisfield

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Name Crockett & Riggin Packinghouse
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 6

Public Auction, 8/27/1910, \$11,820.00

Second Item-All that lot or parcel of land in said Town of Crisfield, Somerset County, and State of Maryland, on the Little Annemessex River, and extending from said river to Hearn Street bounded on the north by the Long, Coulbourn & Company Oyster House property

SFD 45/280

Olivia G. Riggin

to

4/20/1907

Abednego R. Crockett

Whereas L. James Riggin, deceased, by his Last Will and Testament, 11/23/1898, HHD 6/454, devised and bequeathed unto his wife, Olivia G. Riggin

HFL 8/129

N. Walter Dixon, trustee

to

6/14/1890

Abednego R. Crockett

HFL 4/240

Thomas Conner

to

5/27/1886

Abednego R. Crockett
L. James Riggin

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. S-504

Sanborn Insurance Maps, various issues, microfilm at the Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History & Culture.
Somerset County Land Records, various issues, Somerset County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1/4 acre
Acreage of historical setting 1/4 acre
Quadrangle name Crisfield, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The historic metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

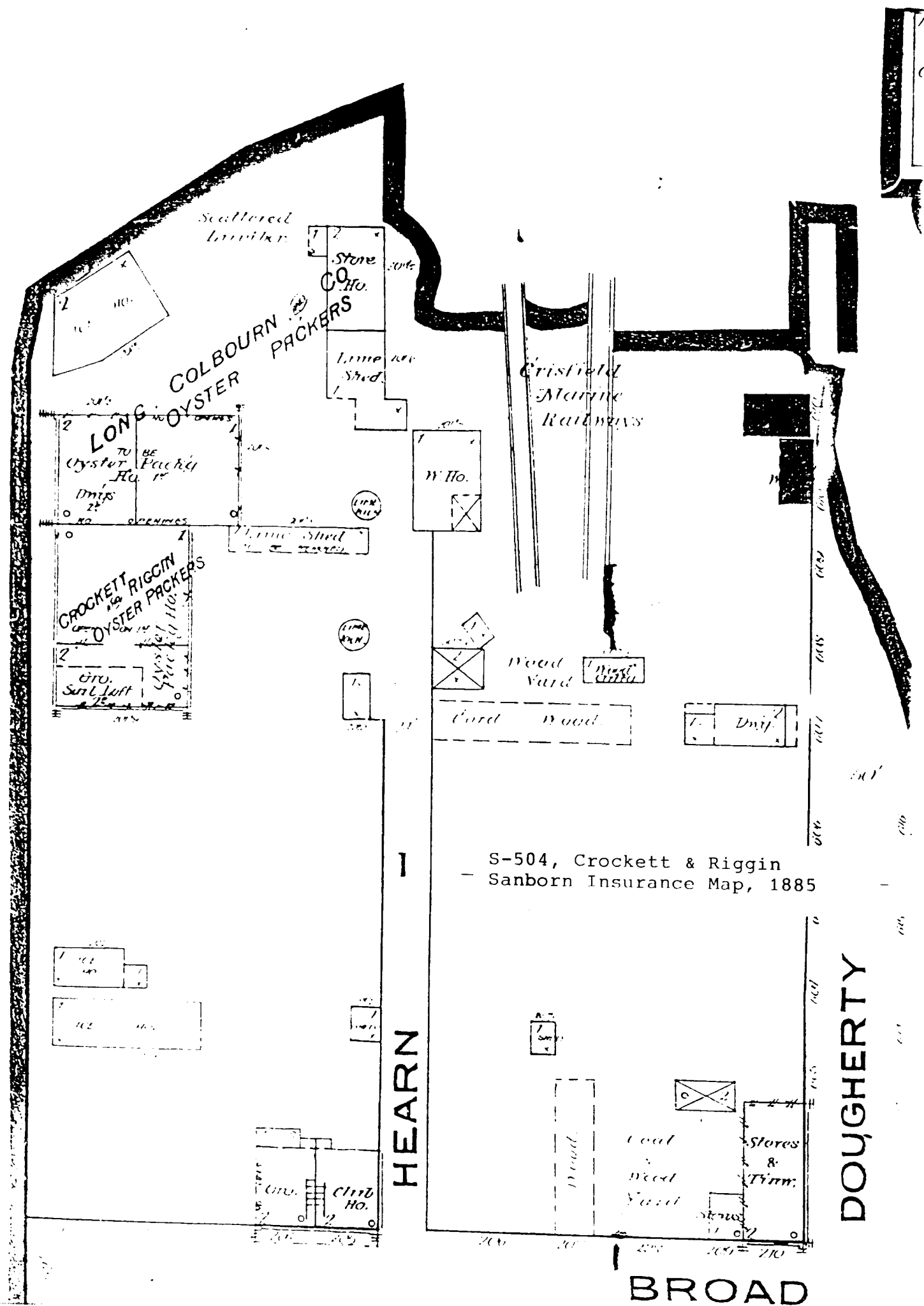
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian and Virginia Jenkins, Business Historian, CBMM		
organization	Private Consultant	date	12/11/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

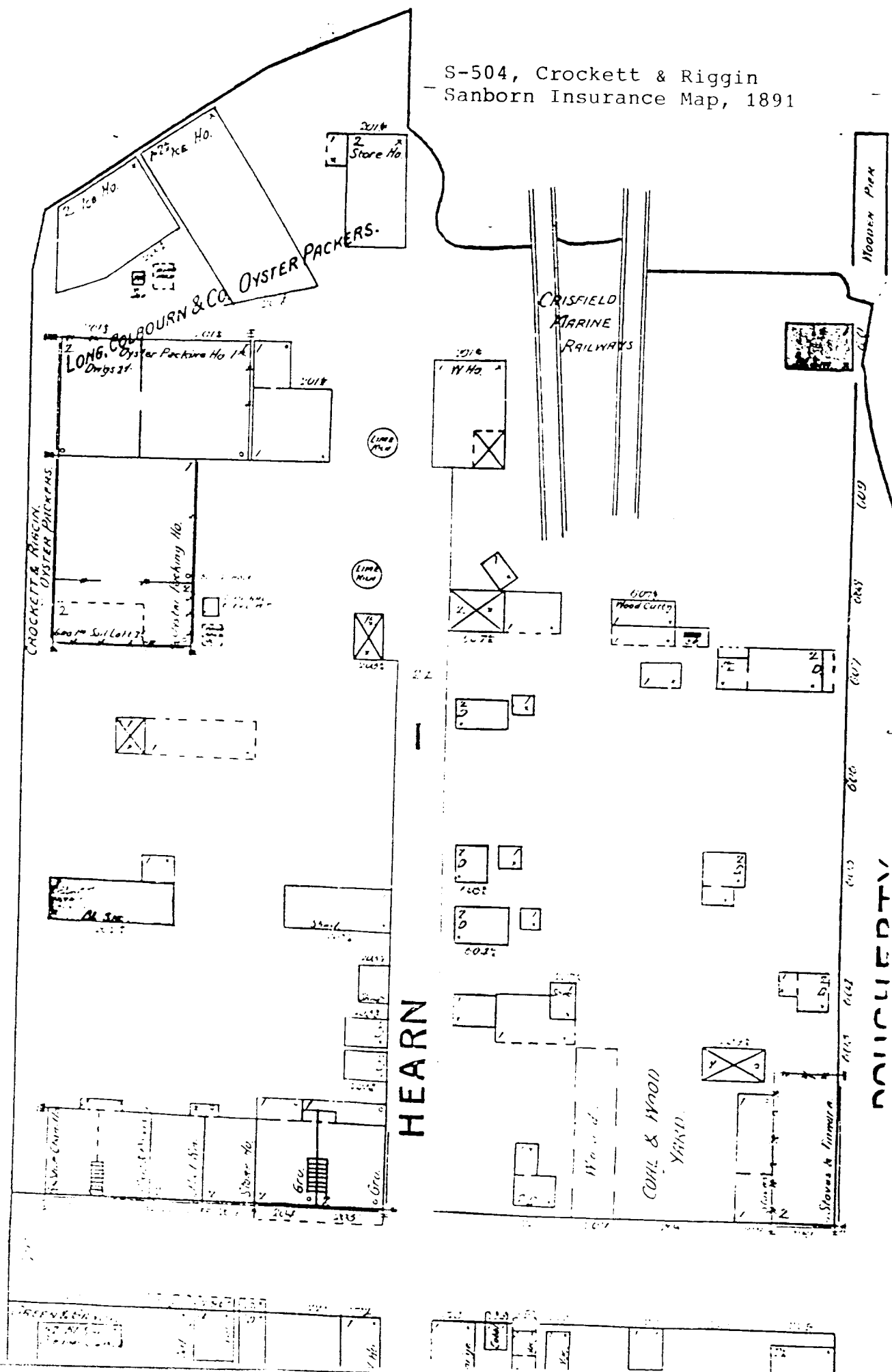
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

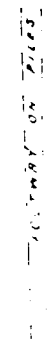
River



Five

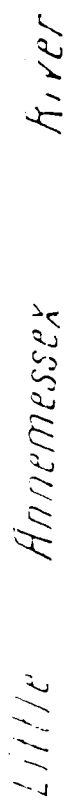


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192

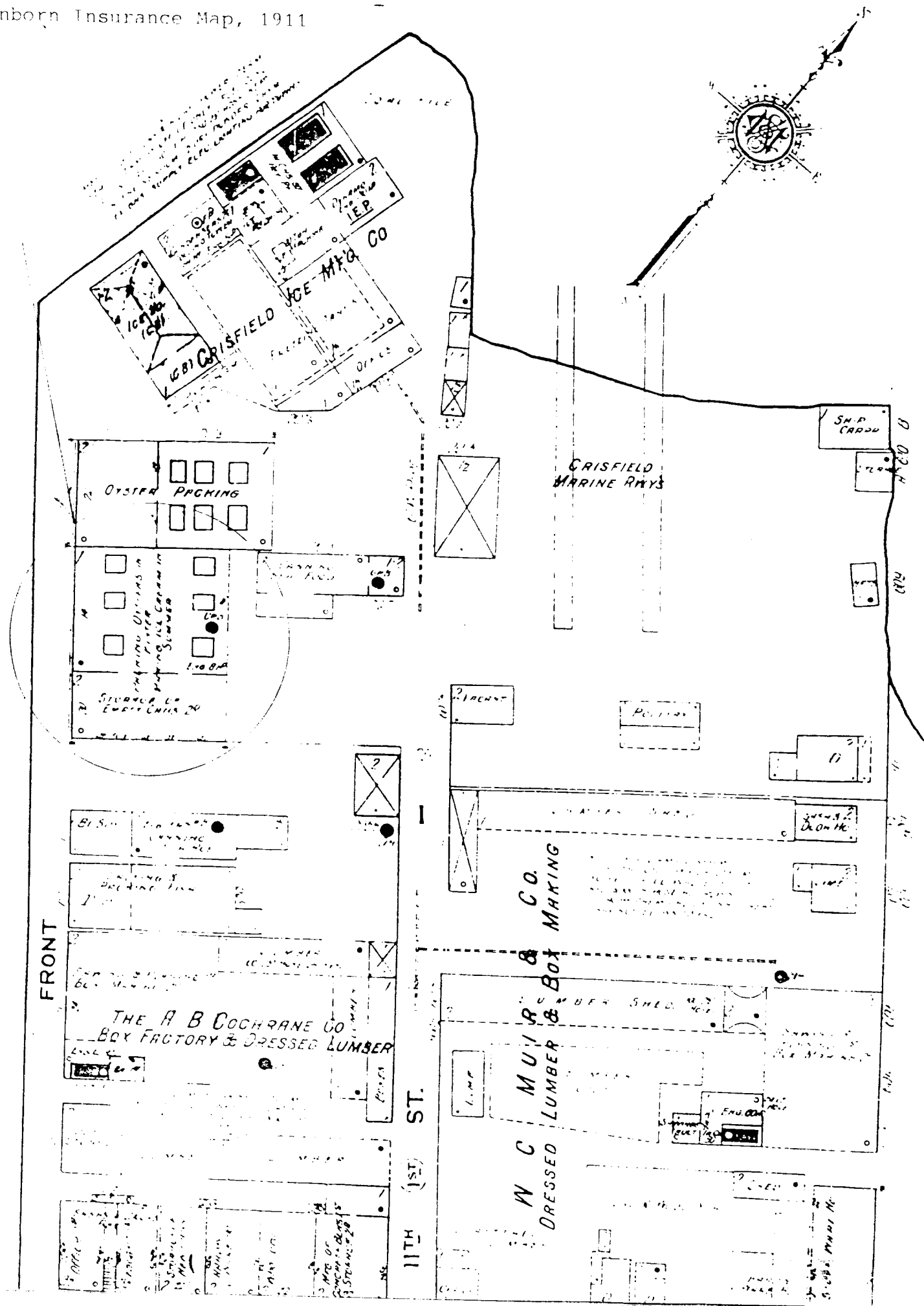


MARYLAND

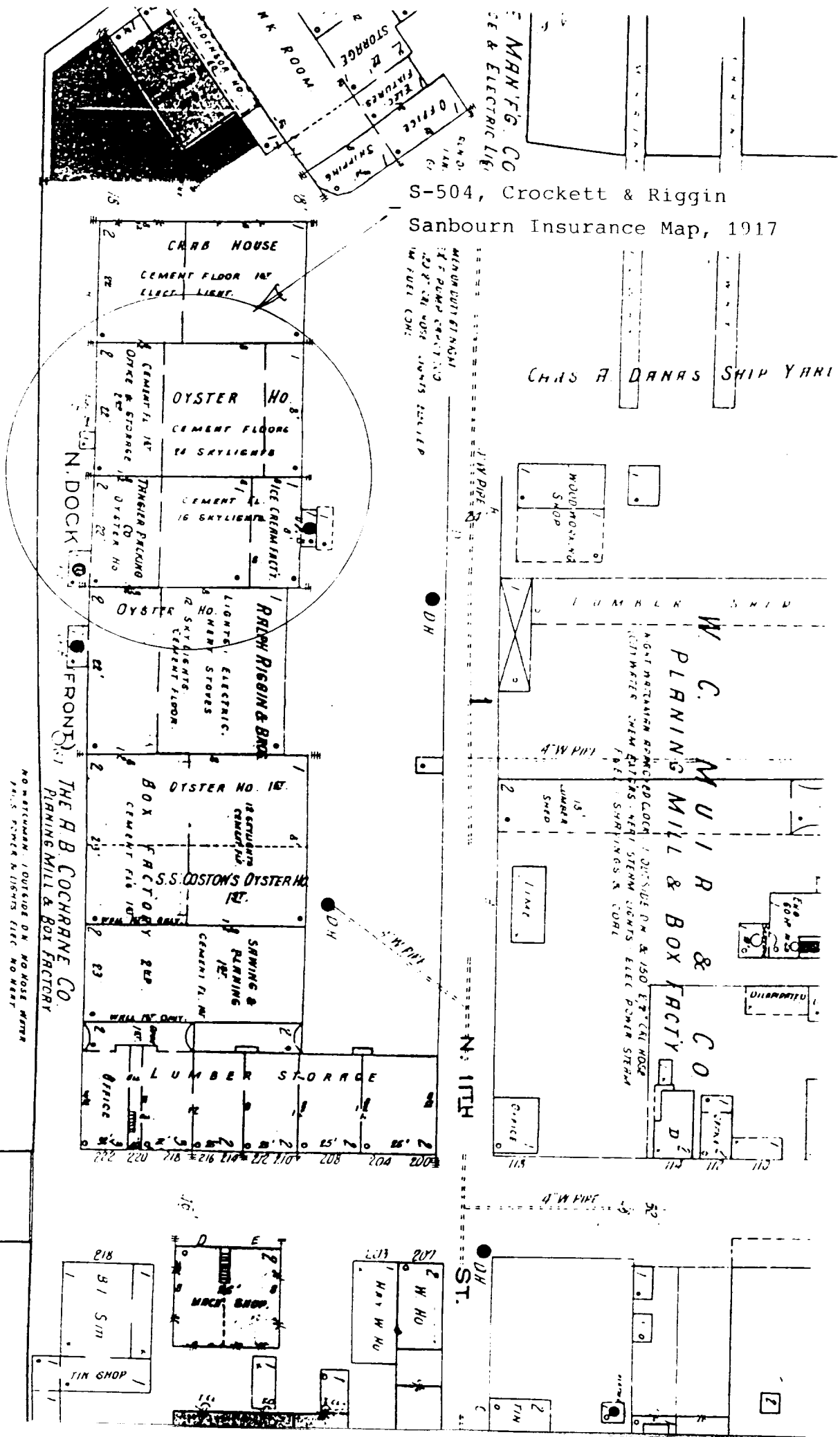
A.B. RIGG
CRAB F.



MARYLAND



Private



S-504, Crockett & Riggins
Sanbourn Insurance Map, 1917

CHAS. A. DENAS SHIP YARD.

YNCANT.

LENNIE N. SMITH

W. C. MURPHY & CO.
DINING MILL & BOX FACTORY

J.W. Pipe

5. 11. 1950

[illegible]

SOVIET MARI NO.

Tin Sh

10.45 in

1" N 101 E

二五

N. DOCK (FRONT)

FRED THORNTON
S. POLEYETT, OWNER.
OYSTER HO.
24 SKYLIGHTS.
CEMENT FIRS.

TANGIER PACKING CO.
R.R. CROCKETT, OWNER.
OYSTER NO.
16 SKYLIGHTS
CEMENT PL.

RALPH RIGGIN & BRO.
OWNERS & TENANTS.
OYSTER NO.
HEAT STOVES -
LIGHTS ELECTRIC -
12 SKEWIGHTS.
CEMENT, ETC.

THE H.B. COCHRAN
PLUMBING WILL A BOX
2 COMPANY ST. N.Y.
BOX FACTORY

H.B. STERLING CO'S
OYSTER NO. 157
STARK N.Y.
H.B. STERLING CO'S
OYSTER NO. 157
55 COSTONS

SAWING & PLANING
CEMENT FLK.

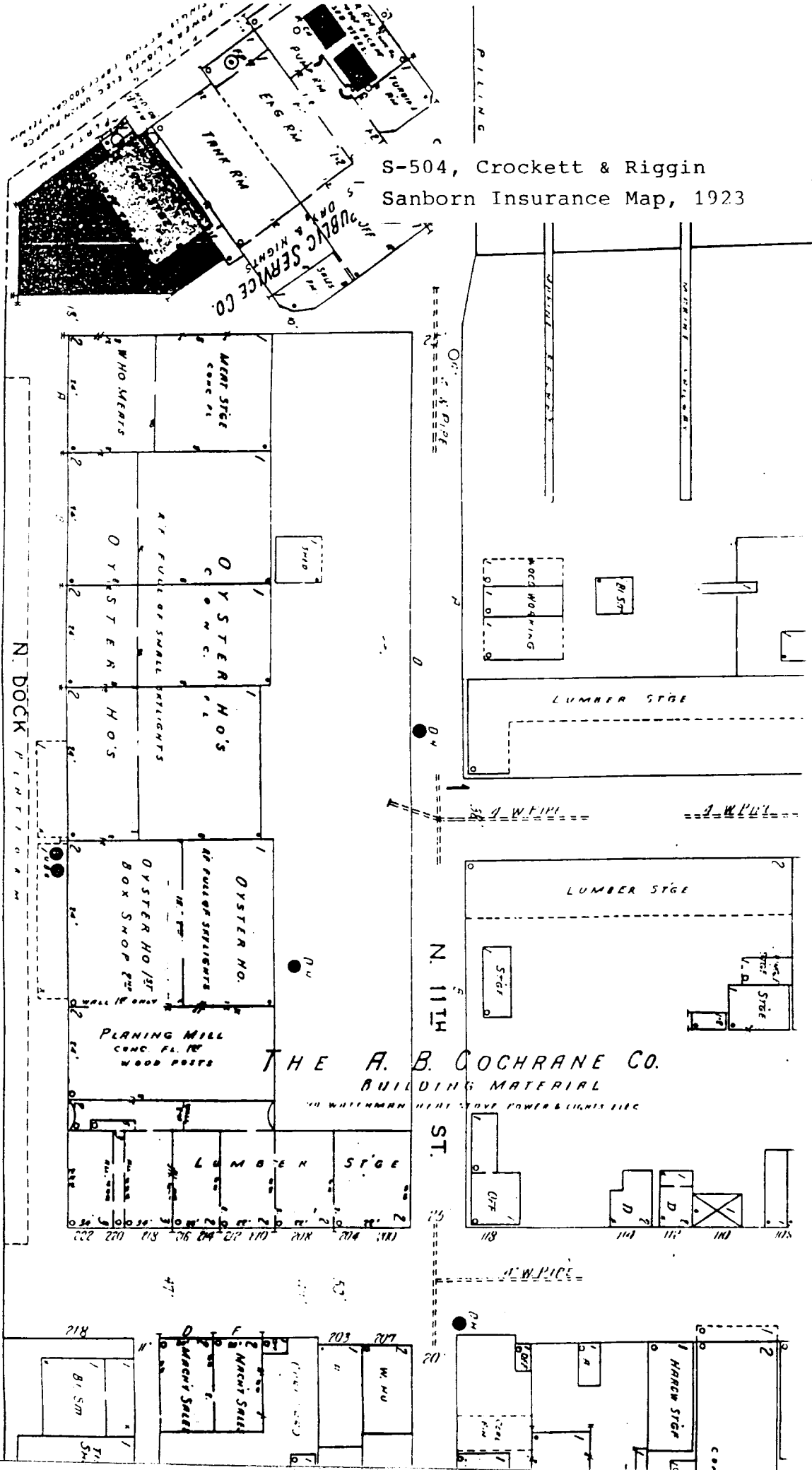
ENG. STORAG. 2
WHOL. GRO. 2
COAL. H. 2
40. INT. 2
STORAG. ON 2
7M. CANS. 2
STORAG. ON 2
7M. CANS. 2
ENG. STORAG. 2
OFFICE 2

Hand-drawn floor plan of a room. The room is rectangular with a dashed line indicating a doorway or partition. The dimensions are labeled as 12' 0" (width) and 10' 0" (length). The text 'MACHINE SHOP' is written inside the room. There is a small table or desk in the top right corner. The drawing is dated 1/1/1910.

1	DATE OF BIRTH DO (1966)
2	NAME

1	h	5/57
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S-504, Crockett & Riggin
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1923

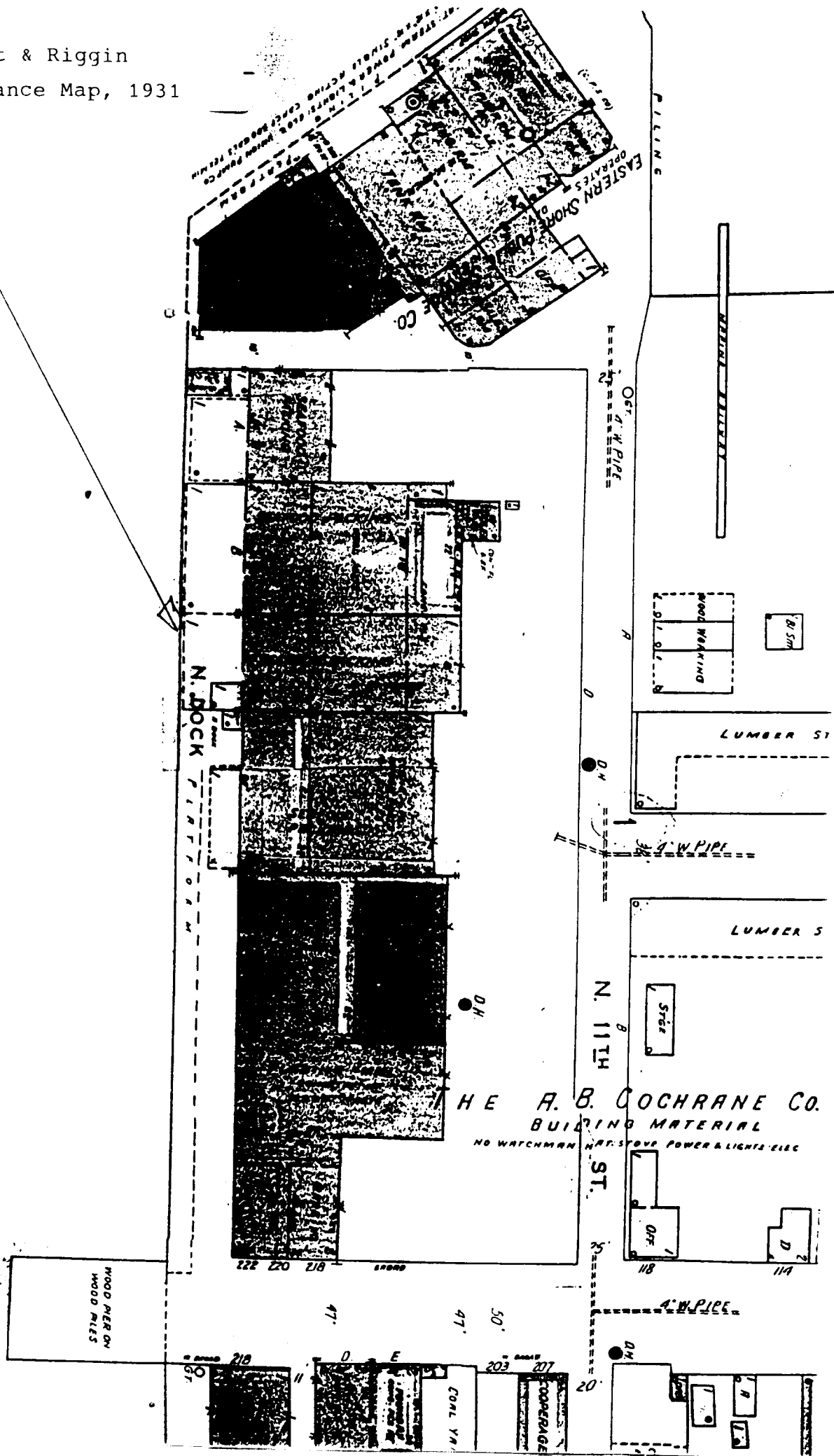
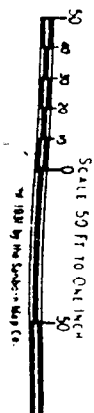


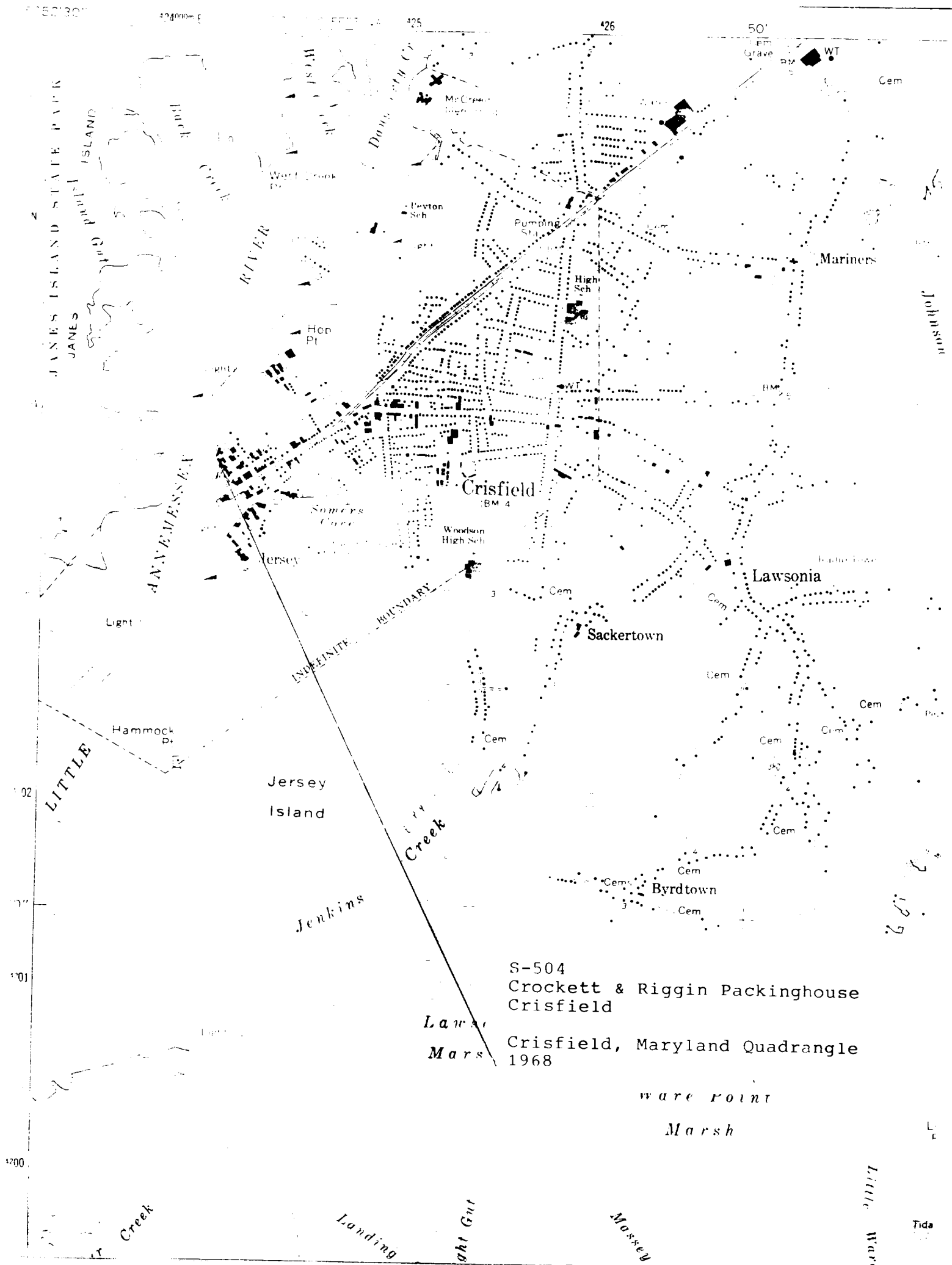
little green grey rip

19

S-504, Crockett & Riggin
 Sanbourn Insurance Map, 1931

Little Annemesset River







S-504

CROCKETT AND RIGGIN PARKINGHOUSE
CRISFIELD, SOMERSET CO., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

12/2001, PAUL TOWNART, PHOTOGRAPHICAL
WAS / MD HISTORICAL TRUST

1 OF 8



S-504

CROCKETT AND RIGGIN PACKINGHOUSE
CRISTINA, SOMERSET CO., NEB.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

12/2001, PAUL TOWANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEZ./ND. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-504

CROCKETT P RIGGIN PACHINGHOUSE

CRISTEN, SOMERSET Co., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

2/2002, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEZ./ MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-504

CRUICKET P RUGGON PARRINGTON HOUSE
CRISFIELD, SOMERSET Co., MA

NORTHWEST WALL

2/2002, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHY

NEE/MA HISTORICAL TRUST

4 or 8



S-504

CROCKETT AND RICHIN PARKING HOUSE
CRISPEN, SOMERSET COUNTY, MD.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

12/2001, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER
N.E. 1 and HISTORICAL TRUST

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5-504

CROCKETT AND RIGGIN PARRINGHOUSE
CRISTFIELD, SOMERSET Co., MD.

NORTHERN ELEVATION

12/2001, PAUL TOWN, PHOTOGRAPHER
NATG./MD HISTORICAL TRUST
6 0 K 8



5-504

CROCKETT AND RICHARD PACKINGHOUSE
CRISFIELD, SOMERSET CO., MA.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

12/2011, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHIC
MFG / M.D. HISTORICAL TRUST

7 0 K 8



S-504

CRUGIER P RIGGIN PARKHOUSE

CRICKERS, SOMERSET Co., MD.

NORTHEAST elevation

2/2002, PAUL TOWLER, PITTOCK HILL

WTR, MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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